THE YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

1995-1996 ANNUAL REPORT

February 14, 1995 to March 31, 1996

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THE YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Council of Yukon First Nations Members:

Art Johns 20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 99, 5 years

Art is resident of Tagish who has hunted and fished for subsistence all his life. He also traps, and has guided and outfitted. A respected Tagish/Tlingit elder, he helped develop the Yukon Conservation Strategy and was instrumental in getting the Southern Lakes Caribou Recovery Program off the ground. He brings a wealth of experience on the land to the Board, as well as a highly recognizable face because of his participation in a number of television programs and public service spots and his frequent performances as a guitarist and singer.

20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 99, 5 years J. Roger Alfred

Roger is a Pelly Crossing resident who subsistence hunts and fishes, traps and used to run dogs and own horses. A Northern Tutchone, Roger worked for many years on the Selkirk First Nation Land Claim and is the Board's walking reference book on the Umbrella Final Agreement. A dedicated Board member, Roger is still repairing the damage his truck suffered after he travelled to Whitehorse in - 45 C weather for the January 1996 meeting. Roger has been involved in Pacific Salmon Treaty negotiations for a number of years and is one of the Board's two members on the Salmon Sub-Committee.

Bruce Charlie 20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 98, 4 years

Bruce is from Old Crow where he has held a variety of responsible positions in the community, from Air Traffic Controller to Deputy Chief of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation. Bruce values the opportunity to work for wildlife and habitat. His efforts on behalf of the Porcupine Caribou have taken him as far as Washington D.C. to lobby Congress for protection of their calving grounds. He is a thoughtful member whose comments are listened to very attentively. Bruce served as the first vice-chair of the Board and was also a member of the pre-implementation Board.

19 - Jan - 95 to 18 - Jan - 00, 4 years Georgina Sidney

Georgina is from Teslin where she was closely involved in the negotiations of the Teslin Tlingit Council Final Agreement. Georgina traps in the Wolf Lake Group Trapping Area when she can escape from her community justice job with the First Nation. Georgina is the Board's conscience and does not let members forget that they are there to ensure a future for wildlife and the possibility of a subsistence life style for our children and grandchildren.

David Dickson 20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 97, 3 years

David is a Kaska from Watson Lake. An alumnus of the Yukon College First Nation Administration course, David has held both administrative and political positions with the Liard First Nation. David views the Board as an important learning opportunity and has participated in a number of workshops and symposia on its behalf. Known for his sense of humour, David sits on several Board committees and also served on the pre-implementation Board.

Yukon Territorial Government Members:

Gerald Couture 20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 99, 5 years

Gerry, a resident of Dawson City, was Chair of the Board for its inaugural year of operations. A hunter, trapper, pilot and commercial fisherman, he homesteaded at Thistle Creek on the Yukon River and raised his family there. The founding President of the Yukon River Commercial Fishing Association, Gerry continues to play an active part in the Yukon River negotiations under the Pacific Salmon Treaty and is one of two Board members who sits on the Salmon Sub-Committee of the Board. Gerry's strong communication skills have made him an effective spokesperson for the Board and his commitment to the develop a strong foundation for the Board has yielded sound operating procedures, a solid approach to dealing with issues and a loyal Board Secretariat. He also served on the pre-implementation Board.

20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 99, 5 years Shirley Ford

Shirley is a nineteen year Yukon resident whose family owns, operates and lives on an elk farm in the Takhini Valley northwest of Whitehorse. An avid fisher, Shirley also is regular participant in family hunting trips. She has been an active community volunteer in a variety of capacities with a range of Yukon organizations. Shirley made a strong contribution to the establishment of the Board's office and is a valued member of several committees. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust

Douglas Urquhart 20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 97, 3 years

Doug is a biologist and retired dog musher and bush rat with a long history of involvement with wildlife in the north. He is also one of the pioneers of co-management, widely known for his work as Secretariat to the Porcupine Caribou Herd Management Board and quarterback of the team opposing oil development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the calving grounds of the herd. Doug is also respected for his work as a communicator, workshop facilitator and illustrator and author of the "Paws" cartoon strip which features insights into northern life. He makes his living as - shudder - a consultant.

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The Secretariat

Graham McDonald Executive Secretary 1995-96

Graham is a writer and policy consultant, active dog musher and sometimes woodworker who provided Executive Secretary services to the Board on a contract basis for its start-up year. An 18 year resident of the Yukon, he served as executive assistant to two Ministers of Renewable Resources and as contract Secretariat to the Board during the last two years of its pre-implementation phase. He is proud of having written almost everything produced by the Board in its inaugural year, including this annual report.

Pearl Callaghan Executive Director 1996 -

Pearl took over from Graham in the Spring of 1996 when the Board decided to hire a full time Executive Secretary. Her most recent position was as Director of the Yukon First Nations Tourism Association, but Pearl has an academic background in Environmental Sciences and has worked for the Yukon Department of Renewable Resources and as Environmental Coordinator for the Council of Yukon First Nations. She has also worked in a variety of capacities with Yukon First Nations. Pearl is a member of the Teslin Tlingit First Nation and spends time on the land hunting , fishing, camping whenever she can.

Lucille Jack Office Manager

Lucille is a highly competent bookkeeper, computer operator and office manager. She is a member of the Taku River Tlingit First Nation and worked for that First Nation, assisting the directors, in both the Land Claims and Accounting departments. Lucille has taken courses from both Capilano and Yukon College and has successfully obtained certificates in Computer Management and Business Administration.

Mike Smith 04 - Jun - 96 to 19 - Dec - 97, 3 years

Mike was appointed to replace Jim Rear on the Board. Mike is a former chair of CYFN and has worked with First Nations people for many years. Mike has a law degree and an academic background which includes anthropology and geology. Mike enjoys being out on the land bow hunting, hiking and canoeing the rivers. He has shown a keen interest in issues relating to the mangaement of fish and wildlife in the Yukon. He was appointed Chair of the board on July 15, 1996.

20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 98, 4 years Charles Stricker

Charlie was born in a log cabin in a remote Athabaskan area of Alberta. Charlie's wonderful mom is mostly responsible for his interest in wildlife. Charlie started hunting squirrels as soon as he could hike along behind his dad. He went on to hunt, guide and outfit in Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon for 35 years. He presently has an outfitting concession in the Yukon. In Alberta, Charlie's plan was to give back to the wilderness more thatn he took out. He is a firm believer in the program "Putting Sheep on the Mountain".

James Close 20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 98, 4 years

Jim is a third generation Yukoner, pilot and aircraft engineer who owns and operates Watson Lake Flying Services and other businesses in the Watson Lake area. He has observed several decades of wildlife management practices in the territory and has regular contact with people on the land, providing flying services to trappers, hunters, tourists and exploration companies. Jim makes a point of being well informed and brings a practical, common sense approach to the issues dealt with by the Board.

Elizabeth Hofer 20 - Dec - 94 to 19 - Dec - 97, 3 years

Liz is a biologist, retired dog musher and sometimes wilderness tourism guide who makes her home at Silver Creek at Kluane Lake. She has a long association with Yukon wildlife research, most recently through her work with the Arctic Institute. Liz was an active member of the Alshihik Kluane Caribou Recovery Committee which was established to oversee recovery efforts in the Kluane area. She has the distinction of being the only member of the Board to have conducted wildlife research in Mongolia.

Jim Rear 20 - Dec - 94 - 04 to Apr - 96, 3 years/resigned

Jim is an enthusiastic hunter and member of the Nacho Nyak Dun First Nation. He is also a farmer and contractor who lives on property north of Whitehorse. He served as vice-chair of the Board for 1995-96 and was also a co-chair of the pre-implementation Board. In that capacity, he was very instrumental in raising the profile of the Board among First Nations people. Jim served as the first Chair of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust and was also an active member of the Outfitter Quota Committee which forwarded recommendations to the Board in the spring of 1995.

Board Offices

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Salmon Sub-Committee

Steve Taylor, Chair
Gerry Couture, Vice Chair
Roger Alfred
Joni MacKinnon
Glen Grady
Llewellyn Johnson
Stanley Njootli
Frances Wellar
William Josie
Harvey Kassi

What is the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board?

The Board was established in law by the Yukon Land Claims Final Agreements which came into force in February of 1995. It is made up twelve people - six chosen by Yukon First Nations and six by the Government of the Yukon.

The Board is identified by the Agreements as the "primary instrument of Fish and Wildlife Management in the Yukon" and works in partnership with Renewable Resources Councils in each of the Traditional Territories recognized by the Agreements, and with the Yukon and First Nations governments.

The Board exercises its "primary" role on issues that affect wildlife and users all over the territory while Renewable Resources Councils play the "primary" role on matters that are specific to their Traditional Territories.

Governments are responsible for day to day fish and wildlife management and enforcement of laws. They employ biologists, technicians and managers who gather information on fish and wildlife resources and propose management approaches based on their analysis.

The Board has some capacity to contract expert help, but relies primarily on its partners for technical information, advice and local and traditional knowledge of fish and wildlife resources. It also has the means to consult with Yukon people and to produce and distribute public education materials.

In contrast to the Government situation, the Board is free of day to day management responsibilities and much of the pressure that can be brought to bear by special interest groups. This means that the Board can concentrate on the "big picture" and the "long term". It can focus its efforts on the policies, legislation and protective measures which will protect habitat and guide management for wildlife far into the future.

A New Way of Managing for Wildlife

Chapter 16 of the Umbrella Final Agreement is the largest and most complex chapter in the Agreement. It sets the standard for Yukon wildlife management characterized by three central features:

Conservation: Chapter 16 says that the management and harvesting of fish and wildlife must be guided by the principle of conservation; that is, "...to ensure the quality, diversity and long-term productivity of populations, with the primary goal of ensuring a sustainable harvest and its proper utilization."

Co-Management: Chapter 16 establishes a new way of managing wildlife. It provides for participation by First Nations people in wildlife management. It also formally involves appointed members of the general public, both First Nations people and non-First Nations people, serving on Renewable Resources Councils and on the Fish and Wildlife Management Board.

Certainty: Chapter 16 replaces the general harvesting rights of Yukon Indian people recognized by the Constitution of Canada with specific harvesting rights to meet subsistence needs within each First Nation's Traditional Territory. At the same time, the Agreements ensure that a share of sustainable fish and wildlife harvests is available to others.

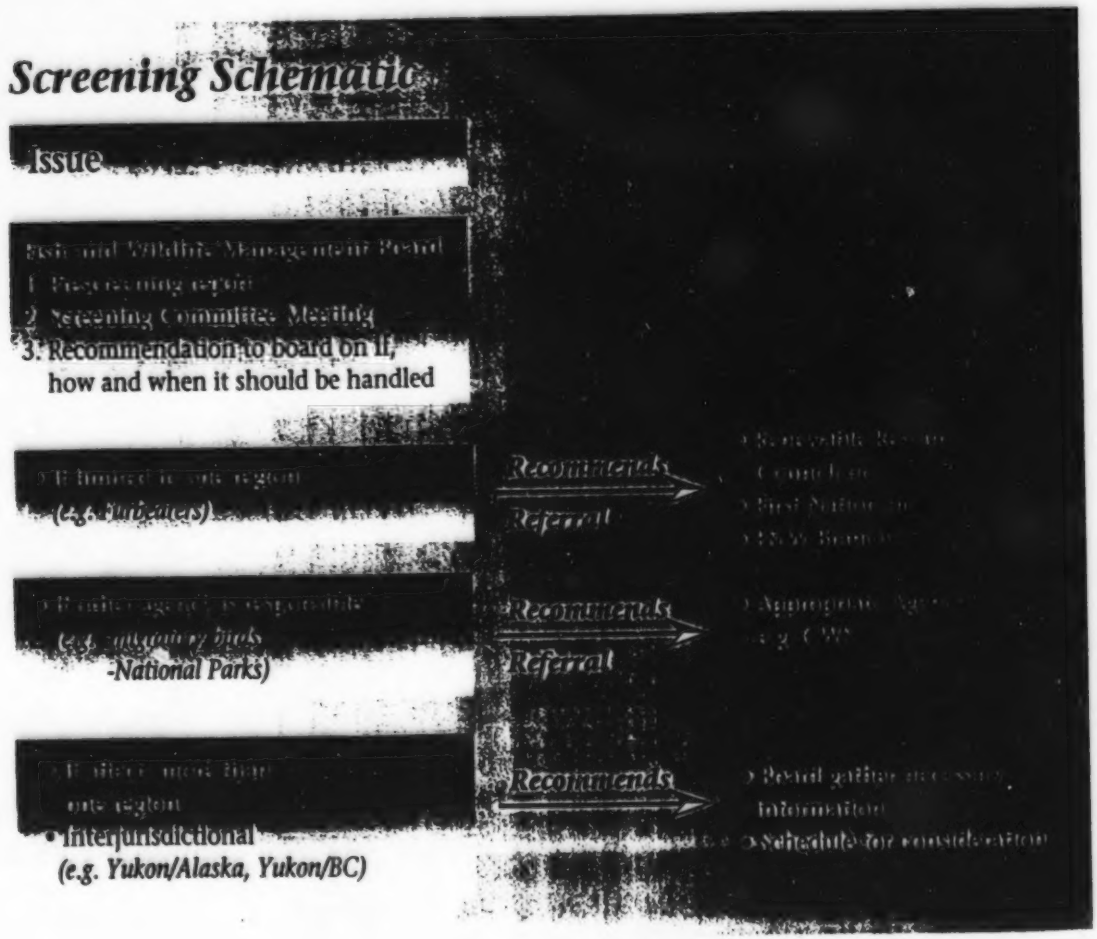
The Board influences management for wildlife through public education and by making well researched and argued recommendations to either Yukon or Federal Ministers, as appropriate, and to Yukon First Nation Governments. It bases its recommendations on a balance of the best technical and traditional local information available to it.

How Does the Board Deal with Issues?

During its pre-implementation stage - the several years before the effective date of land claims agreements - the Board constantly found itself overloaded by issues. "Things to be dealt with" came from all directions, including the public, the department and Board members themselves.

With few meetings a year, dozens of issues to be dealt with and a large Board, there never seemed to be an opportunity to step back and put things in perspective.

The UFA Board deliberately shelved issues for its first few months of operations to allow itself time to put together a system to avoid the same sense of overload that frustrated previous Board members. What it came up with was a Screening Committee to act as a gatekeeper and help reserve the full Board's meeting time for making the key executive decisions that will ensure the conservation and fair allocation of Yukon wildlife.



Screening System

The screening process of the Board is used to sort out the issues that the Board can deal with and to make sure other problems are brought to the attention of appropriate agencies. It is also used to make sure that all the information the Board needs is available when a matter is considered.

The Screening Committee is made up of the Chair of the Board, two members serving on a rotating basis, and other members of the Board who are available to attend. All members of the Board have regular opportunities to participate in the Committee's activities. The Committee is assisted by the Board's Secretariat and draws advice from whatever sources it considers appropriate, including Renewable Resources Councils, the Department of Renewable Resources, First Nations, Elders, interest groups or people proposing initiatives.

In considering matters that have been referred to the Board, the Screening Committee wants to learn:

- If there is a widely shared perception that there is a problem;
- If the problem can be:
    - confirmed by the observations of trappers, hunters or others out on the land,
    - supported by biological or technical data,
    - supported by traditional knowledge; and
- If it is a conservation or allocation problem that puts fish, wildlife or habitat at risk or if it affects the fish and wildlife.

Screening in Brief - The Basic Questions

WHAT do people think the problem is?
(Is it really a problem?)

WHY do they think it is a problem?
(Is something a threat to wildlife? Are people unhappy with the allocation of use?)

WHERE is the problem ?
(Is it confined to one traditional territory, or does it affect the whole Territory?)

WHO should be doing something about it?
(Is it really the Board's business?)

The Committee also needs to determine if matters that people want the Board to consider fall within its primary jurisdiction. One of the objectives of the Fish and Wildlife Chapter of the Agreement is "to develop responsibilities for renewable resource management at the local level" Renewable Resources Councils, where they exist, are the primary instrument for regional wildlife management and a protocol worked out between the Board and Councils ensures that the Board will not attempt to deal with regional matters unless asked to by a Council.

When faced with regional matters that have clear territorial repercussions, the Board is committed to cooperating with Councils to develop approaches and solutions which will work at both levels.

It is important to remember that some issues forwarded to the Board may be better dealt with by other agencies or by combinations of co-management partners. In these instances, the Screening Committee attempts to identify appropriate partners or lead players and may make recommendations to the Board on who is best equipped to deal with a given problem.

Where Councils are not yet in place, the Board has encouraged local efforts to develop consensus on issues before it wades in. In some cases it has done so by assigning members to monitor or participate in community initiatives to develop approaches to problems. An example has been Board involvement with the committee working on the decline in sheep populations in the Kluane Region.

In general, people or groups who have identified problems are encouraged to work with regional biologists, the First Nation and any trapping, fishing, hunting and conservation organizations in their community to develop common understandings of matters.

Which Trigger Board Action

habitat

that there is no local or regional agency that can

Minister or another agency

deal with the problem.

In making that kind of recommendation, the Committee looks at the conservation values associated with the problem, the Board's workplan and long term priorities, and the priority placed on the matter by its co-management partners.

Before the Committee can recommend when a problem should be dealt with, it also looks at whether there is enough information available to the Board to make a decision. If information is lacking, the Committee attempts to outline what information is needed and what work needs to be done before a matter can be scheduled for detailed consideration by the entire Board.

The Board may also set up working teams on issues which require detailed study.

Research Tools

and interpret the information needed to deal

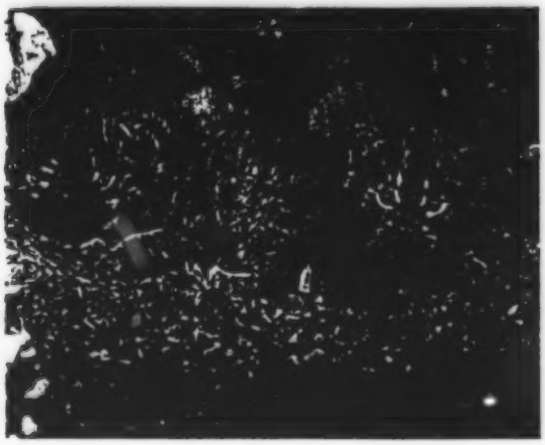
knowledge

directly while others are most effectively used by co-management

Councils and the Department. Still others may be used on a contract basis required.

Different problems may suggest different solutions ranging from educational initiatives to new, or amended legislation, policies or management plans. Some specific measures, such as the setting of Total Allowable Harvest levels when wildlife required for subsistence are at critical levels, are specifically provided for in Final Agreements. Year to year harvesting adjustments are usually made by regulation changes.

Examples of Board approaches to specific problems are found throughout this report

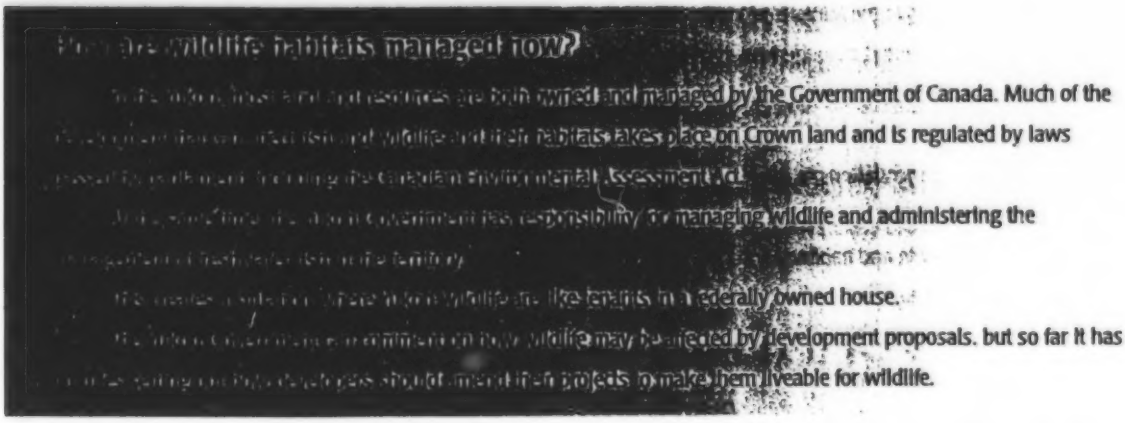


PRIORITY - HABITAT PROTECTION

Growth and Conflict

Healthy wildlife populations depend on lots of room to move, a variety of habitats and limited disturbance. Since development of Yukon resources has been encouraged by government, but safeguards for wildlife habitats have not been put in place at the same pace, habitat has been a key focus for the Board in its first year of operations.

More people live in the Yukon now than at any time since the goldrush,


How are wildlife habitats managed now?
Government of Canada
Canadian Environmental Assessment Act
managing wildlife and administering the
federally owned house.

thousands visit every year, and more wilderness access technology is available than ever before. The impacts of human activity on wildlife are felt all over the territory, but wildlife habitats are most affected where human populations and activities are most concentrated.

The Board believes that it has to be a strong advocate for wildlife habitat. Steps have to be taken now to put protection in place or wildlife prospects will diminish year by year.

Yukon Habitat Protection Law – Yukon Government to Act

The Board believes that Yukon habitat protection laws are essential. Accordingly, it has urged the Yukon Government, through the Minister of Renewable Resources, to develop effective alternatives to the 1992 habitat protection laws which were passed by the Yukon Legislative Assembly but never signed into law.

The Yukon uses the Wildlife Act to set out the legal framework for its management of wildlife. It has regulated hunting and trapping and outfitting for years. However, there are no effective Yukon laws designed to regulate how wildlife habitat can be used.

Canada - which has jurisdiction for Yukon freshwater fish management - has spelled out strong fish habitat protection measures in the federal Fisheries Act. These measures give Federal authorities who manage salmon and Yukon officials who are delegated to administer management of the Freshwater fishery an essential tool.

Resource and constitutional legal experts such as Dr. Andrew Thompson and Peter Hogg say that because the Yukon has responsibility for wildlife and because the fate of wildlife depends on its habitat, the Territory has some authority to shape the way habitat is handled.

Significant improvements to the laws and policies which regulate and guide human activities will have to be made if people expect be able to hunt moose or watch a grizzly play with its cub in the wild ten or twenty years from now. Many of the laws now on the books - for example the mining acts - do not even mention a need to protect the interests of wildlife.

In the continuing absence of Yukon laws regulating the use of wildlife habitats, the Board has advocated the inclusion of specific habitat protection measures in both Federal and Territorial laws and policies.

Quartz and Placer Mining Acts - Board Recommends Strengthened Amendments

In the fall of 1995, the Government of Canada introduced amendments to the Yukon Quartz and Placer Mining Acts which included measures setting out how work should be done on mining claims to minimize environmental impacts.

In recommendations to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Board expressed concerns about a continuation of the "open entry" management system . As the Board pointed out, under this system, even recognized critical wildlife habitat can be staked for mining unless it has been specifically withdrawn, something which rarely happens outside of parks.

The Board's recommendations to the Minister stated:

"The Board opposes the concept of 'free entry' for mineral exploration as being incompatible with the long term conservation of fish, wildlife and habitats.

The Board went on to point out that the legislation failed to even mention wildlife or their habitats despite the Minister's acknowledgement in correspondence to the Board that mineral activity would affect wildlife. The Board considered this a serious oversight, particularly in view of Governments" constitutional obligation to conserve wildlife to meet the needs of both consumptive and non-consumptive users.

The Board's position was that disruptive mineral activity should not be undertaken until the interests of wildlife have been considered and addressed.

To make this point clear to managers and users of the act, it recommended that conservation of fish and wildlife habitats be specifically referenced as one of the purposes of the Land Use and Reclamation part of the Act.

A Board delegation to advocate improvements to the Amendments is expected to present its position to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development when it considers the Quartz and Placer Mining Act Amendments.

Yukon Forestry Policy - Board Proposes Adoption of Wildlife Conservation Principle

During 1995-1996, the Yukon Government began to develop a forestry policy in anticipation of devolution from the

Government of Canada. The Board monitored and made comments on the forestry policy initiative because it believes that what happens to Yukon forests will to a great extent determine what happens to wildlife in the Yukon.

Since the initial statement of goals and principles in the discussion paper "Toward a Yukon Forest Management Policy" completely failed to reference fish and wildlife conservation, the Board proposed the addition of the following principle:

"The use and management of Yukon forests must reflect and conserve their value as habitat for Yukon wildlife."

The Board also observed that the listed "elements of forest management policy" failed to note the need for protection of wildlife habitat. It advocated identification of this element to highlight the need to develop habitat protection regulations in conjunction with forestry legislation.

Although the discussion paper mentioned "sustainable use", it provided little indication of how this would be achieved. The Board suggested that the policy should call for resource inventories to be conducted in advance of forestry development to identify key wildlife habitats which might require protection from forestry activity. In the absence of any broader Yukon laws for habitat management and protection, legal protection provisions for these habitats would be needed in forestry legislation.

Development Assessment Process (DAP)

A principal means of tying together federal and territorial efforts to manage all Yukon resources is the Development Assessment Process (DAP). DAP legislation, based on the guidelines of the Land Claims Final Agreement, is currently being developed. Once legislated, DAP will replace the Canada Environmental Assessment Act in the Yukon.

DAP should set out a framework for the thorough assessment of the environmental, economic and social impacts of development proposals . The goal of the process is to produce assessments that provide as clear a picture as possible of both the benefits and bruises of development.

The Board continues to monitor the early efforts to develop DAP and will work to ensure that wildlife and their habitats are given full consideration and adequately protected by the legislation in its final form.

PRIORITY - WILDLIFE RECOVERY

Mistakes in the past

Past Yukon wildlife management has not always been successful and mistakes can leave a sad legacy . The Yukon's pattern of boom and bust has left impacts on wildlife which are still being dealt with today.

A good case in point is the Fortymile Caribou Herd.

Rebuilding - the Fortymile Caribou Herd

The Fortymile Caribou Herd was a vast barrenground caribou population which used to range from Fairbanks through Dawson and the central Yukon as far south as Lake Laberge. During the early part of this century, migrations across the Yukon River could stop riverboat traffic for more than a day at a time.

Market hunting during the goldrush era and heavy sports hunting since then has reduced the herd from hundreds of thousands to just 22,000 caribou that occupy only a fraction of their historic range. Although animals from the herd

sometimes reach the Dawson area, but they have not been known to travel farther into the Yukon for many years.

In the last five or six years, determined international efforts have led to completion of a management plan to rebuild the herd. Yukon and Alaskan biologists and managers, First Nations and local people believe that reductions in harvest and wolf population management could allow the herd to rebuild to a critical mass of 60,000 caribou that would support continued growth of the herd.

In the fall of 1995, the Board played a key role in turning a hopeful plan into political and practical reality by pushing for progress on both the Alaska and Yukon sides of the international border, advocating adoption of the plan in Alaska and recommending a regulation change to begin implementation in the Yukon.

Rebuilding - the Southern Lakes Caribou Herd

Since 1992, six First Nations and the Yukon Government have been cooperating to rebuild the Southern Lakes Woodland Caribou Herd. The herd is made up of several sub-herds from the Ibex Valley, Atlin and Carcross /Squanga Lake areas. According to oral history accounts, it once numbered in the tens of thousands. In fact, the village of Carcross takes its name from an abbreviation of the caribou crossing that once took place at the narrows where the town sits today.

The range of the Southern Lakes herd includes Whitehorse and is home to over eighty percent of the Yukon's population which helps to explain why its and its population is a shadow of historic levels. A highly developed network of roads, agricultural and residential land developments and enthusiastic ATV and snowmobile use make it unlikely that the herd will ever flourish at historic levels.

However, despite the continuing development pressure, some rebuilding of the herd has begun, supported by a voluntary no hunting policy from First Nations and hunting restrictions placed on most of the herd's range.

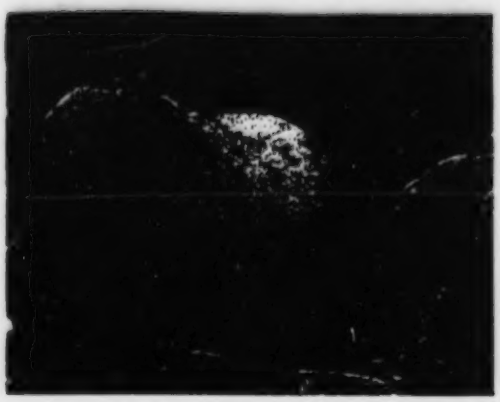
In 1995, the steering committee for the recovery program proposed a permit system with zero permits for caribou within the range of the Squanga Sub-Herd. Following public consultation, the Board recommended the change to the Minister and the regulation change was put into effect for the 1996 hunting season.

PRIORITY - EFFECTIVE CO-MANAGEMENT

Co-Management and Common Understandings - making a new management model work

Co-management is a chief feature of the Final Agreement approach to managing wildlife and the first year of land claims implementation brought a number of new co-management partners onto the scene.

In addition to confirming the roles of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board and the Mayo Renewable



Resources Council, which had both operated as "pre-implementation" pilots, the Final Agreements established the Alsek Renewable Resources Council for the Champagne and Aishihik Traditional Territory, the Vuntut Gwitchin Renewable Resources Council and the Teslin Renewable Resources Council.

The changes brought by the agreements mean a steep learning curve for many newly involved people and some established managers

One of the biggest benefits of co-management is that a much broader range of information will be fed into management systems on a regular basis, particularly through the Renewable Resources Councils. With their home bases in the communities, their independence from "government" and respected local First Nations and non-native members who have knowledge of the land, Renewable Resources Councils should result in responsive and responsible Yukon wildlife management.

Several workshops, sponsored by a variety of partners helped to open lines of communication and lay down a foundation for common understandings. Some of these were informal exchanges of information such as operating procedures and explanations of government processes. Others were more structured opportunities to meet and talk.

First Annual Renewable Resources Councils Workshop - Old Crow

The Vuntut Gwitchin Renewable Resources Council showed great initiative by organizing a November 1995 workshop which brought together members of each of the Renewable Resources Councils, the Chair, Vice-Chair, Executive Secretary and some members of the Board as well as a number of people from the Fish and Wildlife Branch of the Department of Renewable Resources, Canadian Wildlife Service and Parks Canada.

Workshop discussions on the roles played by chairs, secretariats and members; revealed effective approaches to meetings, agendas and minutes; highlighted the advantages of partnerships with other agencies; and suggested ways to build them.

Participants also developed an agenda for the annual meeting between Council Chairs and the Board and recommended a Roles and Responsibilities Workshop on Co-Management with the Yukon and First Nations.

Annual Board Meeting with Chairs of Renewable Resources Councils - Whitehorse

Under the Final Agreements, the Board is required to meet annually with the Chairs of the Renewable Resources Councils. That meeting took place in March of 1996 and focused on developing a protocol for dealing with wildlife issues.

Participants came to a meeting of minds on some general guidelines for Board/Council roles and relationships:

- that Councils and Boards, working together, should set the direction for Yukon wildlife management;
- that the Board should take a leadership role in advocating territorial policy approaches to fish and wildlife issues;
- that Councils, when making recommendations on local matters, should expect minimal Board involvement;
- that the Board should ask the question "Is this really any of our business?" Of every issue presented to it, consistent with the Chapter 16 direction "to develop responsibilities for renewable resource management at the community level."
- that the Board should hesitate to act as umpire when there is a split in community views on a management issue and should encourage resolution at the community level.

Councils also agreed that they could minimize conflicts by agreeing not to become involved in matters in another traditional territory unless invited to do so by the local Council.

All agreed that Councils should be encouraged to seek the advice and views of the Board and other Councils. They recognized that information sharing would keep people informed on the kinds of issues arising regionally and identify matters which might require a coordinated territory-wide approach involving the Board.

Participants also discussed the steps required to make a recommendation become a wildlife law. The regulation cycle (see page 20 for details) requires almost a year's lead time before a proposed change can be made into law. To get the best response from the Board, Councils were encouraged to use the checklists laid out in the Board's screening and working group operating procedures (see section s14 to 18, Appendix C) to guide the preparation of proposals.

Circumpolar Aboriginal People and Co-management Workshop - Inuvik, NWT

Chair Gerry Couture and Vice-Chair Jim Rear attended a Co-Management Workshop in Inuvik in November of 1995 to meet with people from the circumpolar region, including the Yukon, NWT, Quebec, Greenland, Russia and Alaska.

Participants learned of a wide variety of co-management projects and issues, successes and failures and participated in panel or workshop discussions on wildlife management, community participation and the future of co-management..

Members of the "Future of Co-Management Panel" may have summed up much that was learned at the conference by observing that effective co-management requires trust, respect, good communication, common goals and a lot of patience. The payoff is better management.

New Management Rules - 1996

Outfitter Quotas - Getting Ahead of a Potential Problem

Concerns about outfitter overharvest prompted the Department of Renewable Resources and the pre-implementation Fish and Wildlife Management Board to meet with stakeholders in November of 1993 to discuss some form of outfitter harvest management system. Participants at that workshop, including government, First Nation and outfitter representatives, agreed to a committee to explore the idea of quotas for moose and caribou. A foundation for this work was laid by multi-year quota systems for grizzlies and goats that had been in place for several years and seemed to work.

The "Outfitter Quota Committee" included representatives of the pre-implementation Board, the Department of Renewable Resources, outfitters, and the pre-implementation Mayo District Renewable Resources Council. It held meetings in most Yukon communities and eventually forwarded recommendations to the Fish and Wildlife Management Board . Their recommendations confirmed a continuing place for outfitting in the Yukon and advocated the establishment of a Quota System for moose and caribou, with provisions to add sheep to the system if there were indications that sheep populations were under excessive pressure.

At its October 1995 meeting, the Board heard directly from members of the Committee, the Alsek and Mayo Renewable Resources Councils and several First Nations. After careful consideration, the Board endorsed the Committee's recommendations which were accepted by the Minister in the spring of 1996. Discussions on outfitter quotas were initiated with outfitters in areas where Renewable Resources Councils have been established.

How Will Outfitter Quotas Work?

Quotas will put a ceiling on the number of moose or caribou that can be harvested in any given ou
Quotas will be established based on discussions between the outfitter, local Renewable Resources Coun
Wildlife Branch.

Once a quota is established, it will be in place for three to five years, except in cases where conse
dictate otherwise. Outfitters will be able to roll over unused portions of their quota until the final year of
means that if they harvest two less moose that their quota provides in one year, they could harvest two
next year.

If the average age of sheep harvested by an outfitter declines to a level considered "biologically sign
in the part of the concession affected could be placed on quota.

Perhaps the biggest benefit outfitter quotas will bring to wildlife management will be the increased
between the various people and organizations with interests in wildlife. It is likely that outfitters will be
their hunters into areas of their concessions which are least likely to lead to conflicts with local people.
adjustments to concession management practices or formalize measures to distribute meat to nearby co
generate goodwill with Renewable Resources Councils and agreement on fair quotas which will ensure
viability for the outfitter.

In the event that an outfitter disagrees with the quota he has been assigned, he or she will have the o
the matter to an Outfitter Appeal Committee.

Yukon Regulation Changes - 1996

Over the last number of years, Yukoners have come to expect fall publication and consultations on proposed hunting and fishing regulations changes. For the first time in 1995/96, the Board took the lead role in publishing and consulting on a range of public and departmental proposals

Time consuming, but successful efforts were made to ensure that the presentation of the proposals and the reasons stated for them clearly reflected the views of their proponents.

In November 1995 the Board published a booklet called "Wildlife Regulation Changes proposed for 1996" and a newspaper centerspread which detailed for proposals for regulatory change, three dealing with caribou and one with moose in game management zone 7. Meetings to hear proponents explain their proposals were held in December and January and both oral and written comments were encouraged.

SOUTHERN LAKES/SQUANGA AND FORTYMILE CARIBOU

Two of the proposals, dealing with the Southern Lakes and Fortymile Caribou herds, were aimed at rebuilding populations (please see Priority - Wildlife Recovery)

CHISANA CARIBOU

The third proposal was for a permit hunt with zero permits for the Chisana Woodland Caribou Herd which ranges in the Nutzotin Mountains and headwaters of the White and Donjek Rivers and winters near Beaver Creek. The herd had been declining for several years for reasons not fully understood. Alaskans closed hunting in its stateside range in 1994, and the Fish and Wildlife Branch proposed that the same be done in the Yukon. Having determined that the public generally supported that proposal, the Board endorsed the proactive proposal which the Minister accepted and implemented for the 1996 hunting season.

GMZ 7 MOOSE

The final proposal came from the Alsek Renewable Resources Council which suggested a registration hunt for moose in game management zone 7 to use all the annual permits allocated. The Board recognized community desires to make the best use of the very limited harvests available in this area while the Alshihik Kluane Caribou Recovery Program continues and thus supported the proposal, particularly in light of the Recovery Plan provision which encouraged the identification of other harvest opportunities and broad public support for the proposal.

Changing the Rules

So how do regulations get changed? What if I see a problem - what can I do?

Here is the story.

Anyone can identify a problem with regulations or a wildlife population which requires protection. If you see a problem in the making, contact your regional biologist or your Renewable Resources Council. They will investigate your concern through wildlife surveys, research, hunter return information and other local observations.

Where Regional Resource Councils exist, they will be familiar with the routine and be able to consult with the local public, refine an approach to the problem and possibly propose rule changes.

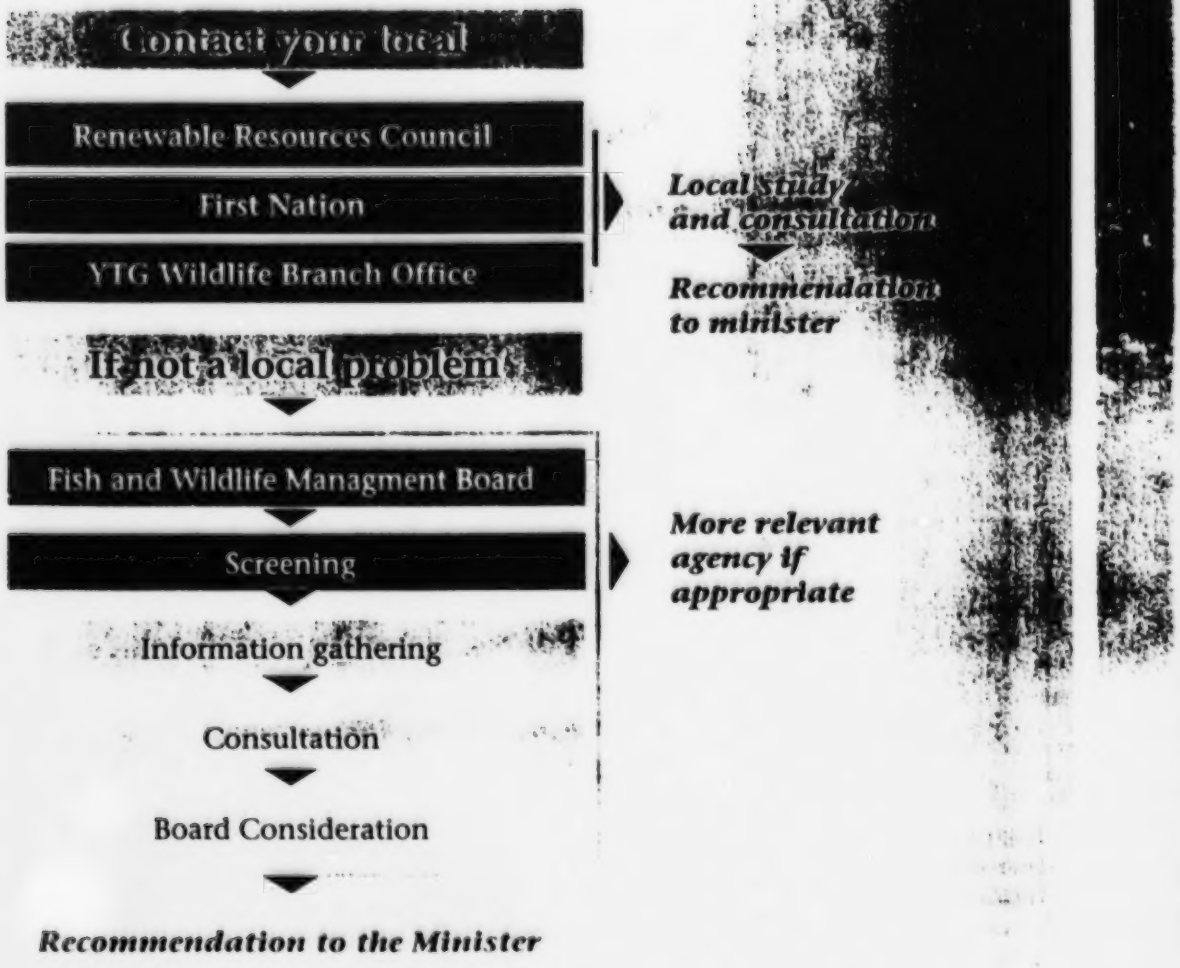
Where no Renewable Resources Council is in place. the Regional Biologist will bring the matter to the attention of the Department and probably discuss it with a range of local people including the Conservation Officer and the local First Nation. If there is some local agreement that a problem is developing, the Department and/or the First Nation will work with the community to develop proposed solutions..

If the problem extends beyond the region, the people dealing with it locally will raise it with the Board.

The Board supports community efforts to develop solutions to problems and will not interfere in strictly local matters. It encourages Renewable Resources Councils and community organizations to refer to the guidelines it has laid out in the Screening and Working group sections of its operating procedures. These may help identify and organize some kinds of information needed to come to terms with problems.

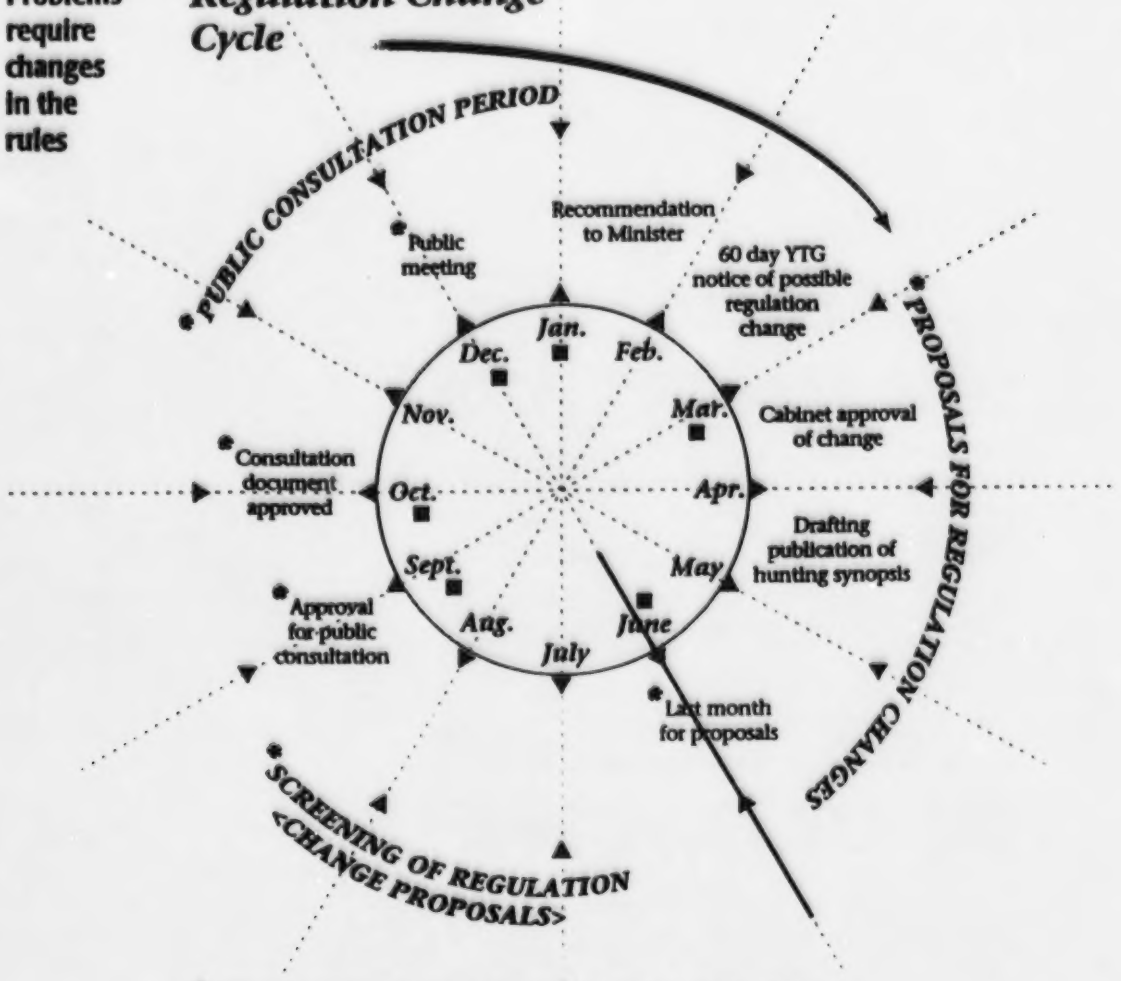
If the solution proposed for a problem is a regulation change, be forewarned that it takes more than a year to change the law. The next section explains the steps.

If you see a management problem



Problems require changes in the rules

Regulation Change Cycle



* ***One year previous to possible regulation change***

■ ***Usually scheduled Board meetings***

- Board receipt of proposal
- Pre-screening report prepared
- Proposal reviewed by Screening Committee
- Proposal either scheduled for Board consideration or referred to appropriate organization or more information sought
- Proposal considered by Board at one of six annual meetings - usually January, March, June, September, October, or December
- Proposal must be approved for public consultation by the Board at the September meeting one year before the possible effective change
- Proposal is drafted for public consultation in form approved by Board at October meeting
- Proposal released as part of Regulation Change Proposals in October/November
- Public consultation period including public meeting with presentation of proposal
- December or January - close of consultation
- January Board meeting considers proposal and public comments and makes recommendation to Minister
- Minister requires approximately 120 days for consideration of proposal - 60 day public notice of draft regulation change - and the balance for analysis of comments and passage of order in council by Cabinet
- May/June preparation of Hunting synopsis for July publication
- Regulation change in effect for August 1 start of hunting season.

YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

AUDITOR'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

NON-CONSOLIDATED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 1996

Auditor's Report

Non-Consolidated Balance Sheet

Non-Consolidated Statement of Income and Surplus

Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

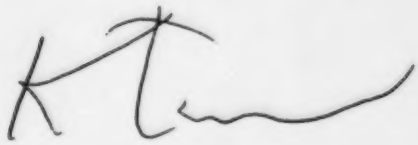
AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board:

I have audited the non-consolidated balance sheet of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board as at March 31, 1996 and the non-consolidated statement of income and surplus for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform and audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these non-consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Board as at March 31, 1996 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for non-profit entities, except that they are prepared on a non-consolidated basis as explained in note 1a.



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
Whitehorse, Yukon
June 13, 1996

YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

NON-CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT MARCH 31, 1996

	1996	1995
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	$ 61,295	$ 719
Accounts receivable	1,249	1,315
GST receivable	6,838	–
Prepaid expense	1,100	–
	70,482	2,032
CAPITAL ASSETS (notes 1b & 2)	41,499	4,275
	111,981	6,307
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	7,902	1,315
Wages and employee deductions payable	1,655	–
Deferred revenue (note 1c)	60,925	717
	70,482	2,032
EQUITY		
INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS		
(notes 1b & 2)	41,499	4,275
SURPLUS	–	–
	41,499	4,275
	$ 111,981	$ 6,307

Approved by:

Chair

Board Member

YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

NON-CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND SURPLUS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1996

REVENUE	
Government of Yukon	**$ 442,866**
Rental revenue	3,744
Interest income	9,790
	$ 456,400
EXPENSES	
Administration fees	69,340
Advertising and promotion	7,391
Bank charges and interest	159
Board meetings	
- honoraria	114,230
- travel, food and lodgings	53,309
- catering	4,126
- other	1,690
Board training	
- honoraria	4,400
- travel, food and lodgings	4,184
- registration fees	350
Insurance	517
Office supplies, postage and photocopying	7,563
Professional fees	7,701
Purchase of capital assets	42,881
Rent17,627	
Repairs and maintenance	770
Special projects (note 3)	28,020
Staff training	309
Telephone and FAX	12,356
Wages and employee benefits	18,552
	395,475
NET FROM OPERATIONS	**60,925**
Applied to Deferred Revenue (note 1c)	(60,925)
SURPLUS AT END OF YEAR	**$ –**

YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD
NOTES TO NON-CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1996

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Scope of Financial Statements

Generally accepted accounting principles require that financial statements be prepared on a consolidated basis except in limited circumstances. The assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of the Salmon Sub-Committee have not been included in these financial statements. This committee, while under the jurisdiction of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Board, functions autonomously and copies of their audited financial statements are available separately to all members. It was considered that the non-consolidated basis of presentation was the more informative presentation for the members. In all other respects, these non-consolidated financial statements are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for non-profit organizations.

b) Capital Assets and Investment in Capital Assets

Capital assets are expensed in the year they are purchased. They are also set up on the balance sheet and amortized against the Investment in Capital Assets. Amortization is provided at rates sufficient to amortize the cost over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Equipment is amortized using the declining balance method at the rates set out in note 2. 1/2 the full rate is taken in the year of acquisition. Leasehold improvements are being amortized on a straight line basis over 5 years. The Investment in Capital Assets reflects the amortized cost of all capital assets owned by the Board.

c) Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue represents monies received in the current year which are available to cover expenses in the next fiscal year. Any monies not expensed by the end of the five year contribution agreement with the Government of Yukon are repayable to the Government of Yukon. The contribution agreement expires on March 31, 1999.

YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

NOTES TO NON-CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1996

2. CAPITAL ASSETS

		1996			1995
	Rate	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net	Net
Furniture & equipment	20%	$32,803	$ 3,280	$29,523	$ 4,275
Computer equipment	30%	9,902	1,486	8,416	–
Leasehold Improvements	1/5 SL	4,450	890	3,560	=
		$47,155	$ 5,656	$41,499	$ 4,275

3. SPECIAL PROJECTS

During the year, the board became involved in several special projects related to Fish and Wildlife management. These were:

Old Crow Resource Council Meeting		
Honoraria	$ 3,550	
Travel, food and lodging	2,776	
Other	836	
		$ 7,162
Forty Mile Herd		
Honoraria	2,450	
Travel, food and lodging	4,082	
		6,532
Inuvik Co-Management Workshop		
Honoraria	1,900	
Travel, food and lodging	2,540	
Registration fees	250	
		4,690
Kluane Sheep		
Honoraria	1,168	
Travel, food and lodging	436	
		1,604

3.SPECIAL PROJECTS (Continued)

Salmon Symposium		
Honoraria	$ 700	
Travel, food and lodging	1,571	
Other	103	
		$ 2,374
Governance Workshop		
Honoraria	2,300	
Travel, food and lodging	1,654	
Registration fees	1,704	
		5,658
		$ 28,020

4. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

There are no comparative figures presented for 1995 on the statement of income as operations in fiscal 1995 were only for a two week period and comparison with fiscal 1996 would not be useful.

APPENDIX A
CHAPTER 16 - FISH AND WILDLIFE

Objectives

16.1.1	The objectives of this chapter are as follows:
16.1.1.1	to ensure Conservation in the management of all Fish and Wildlife resources and their habitats;
16.1.1.2	to preserve and enhance the renewable resources economy;
16.1.1.3	to preserve and enhance the culture, identity and values of Yukon Indian people;
16.1.1.4	to ensure the equal participation of Yukon Indian people with other Yukon residents in Fish and Wildlife Management processes and decisions;
16.1.1.5	to guarantee the rights of Yukon Indian People to harvest and the rights of Yukon First Nations to manage renewable resources on Settlement Land;
16.1.1.6	to integrate the management of all renewable resources;
16.1.1.7	to integrate the relevant knowledge and experience both of Yukon Indian People and of the scientific communities in order to achieve Conservation;
16.1.1.8	to develop responsibilities for renewable resource management at the community level;
16.1.1.9	to honour the Harvesting and Fish and Wildlife management customs of Yukon Indian People and to provide for the Yukon Indian People's ongoing needs for Fish and Wildlife;
16.1.1.10	to deal fairly with all Yukon residents who use Fish and Wildlife resources in the Yukon; and
16.1.1.11	to enhance and promote the full participation of Yukon Indian People in renewable resources management.

APPENDIX B
UMBRELLA FINAL AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OBLIGATIONS

MANDATE:

A Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall be established, as of the effective date of Settlement Legislation, as the primary instrument of Fish and Wildlife management in the Yukon (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.1).

The Fish and Wildlife Management Board, acting in the public interest and consistent with this chapter and taking into consideration all relevant factors including recommendations of the Councils, may make recommendations to the Minister, to Yukon First Nations and to the Councils, on all matters related to Fish and Wildlife management, Legislation, research, policies, and programs (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.11).

The Fish and Wildlife Management Board may make recommendations pursuant to Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.12.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:

The Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall be comprised of twelve members.

Yukon shall nominate six members, one of whom shall be selected in consultation and concurrence with Canada (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.2).

Yukon First Nations shall nominate six members, by causing the Council for Yukon Indians to make the nominations on behalf of Yukon First Nations after consultation with Yukon First Nations (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.2).

The Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources shall appoint the nominees to the Fish and Wildlife Management Board (Umbrella Final Agreement 2.12.2.3, 2.12.2.4).

The majority of representatives of Government and the majority of representatives of Yukon First Nations shall be Yukon residents (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.4).

One third of the initial appointments to the Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall be made for three years, one third for four years, and one third for five years.

Thereafter, appointments to the Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall be for five years (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.5).

All appointments to the Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall be during good behaviour (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.5).

The provisions of Umbrella Final Agreement UFA 2.12.2 shall apply to the Fish and Wildlife Management Board.

OPERATIONS:

The Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall determine its own procedures for selecting its chairperson from its membership (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.3).

The Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources shall appoint the chairperson selected by the Fish and Wildlife Management Board (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.3).

In the event that the Fish and Wildlife Management Board fails to select a chairperson within 60 days of the position being vacant, the Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources shall appoint a chairperson from the membership of the Fish and Wildlife Management Board after consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Management Board (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.3.1).

The Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall be accountable to the Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources for its expenditures (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.8).

The Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall prepare an annual budget, subject to approval by the Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources. The budget approval process will respect the Board's discretion over the allocation of funds to be available to the Board under the Plan (Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.9).

A first year budget and a multi-year financial forecast for the Fish and Wildlife Management Board, excluding the Salmon Sub-Committee, is attached.

ACTIVITIES

The Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall establish the Salmon Sub-Committee pursuant to Umbrella Final Agreement 16.7.17 at its initial meeting or as soon as practicable thereafter.

The Fish and Wildlife Management Board shall undertake activities pursuant to its obligations as set out in Chapter 16, and its obligations in Chapter 27, the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust.

APPENDIX C

YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

1 QUORUM

1.1 A quorum of eight members, seven regular members plus the Chair or Co-Chair shall be necessary for the conduct of Board meetings and the making of Board decisions.

2 CONSENSUS

2.1 Decisions by the Board shall be made by consensus wherever possible.

2.2 Records of meetings shall, at the dissenting member's "request", recognize "dissenting" opinion in the context of a "compromise" to allow consensus for the sake of progress.

2.3 Decisions shall only be made if absent "members" concerns, as communicated to the Chair prior to the meeting where subject is to be considered, are adequately addressed.

2.4 Decisions on a particular subject shall not be made if:

a) an absent member has asked the Chair for deferral of consideration of the subject; and

b) the request for deferral is approved by consensus of those present.

2.5 Decisions made by the Board shall be reconsidered or reversed with the consensus or majority support of the Board.

2.6 In an emergency situation a decision made by quorum will stand.

3 FAILING CONSENSUS

3.1 In the event that consensus cannot be achieved on an issue on which the Board must make a decision, a two thirds majority vote of the entire board is necessary for decision making , that is 8 members of the 12 person Board.

4 CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

4.1 The Board shall always have a chair and a vice-chair, with one drawn from First Nations appointments and one from Ministerial appointments to the Board on an alternating basis.

4.2 Chairs and vice-chairs shall serve one year terms of office.

4.3 At the end of the chair's term, the vice-chair shall assume the chair position and the vice-chair position shall become vacant.

4.4 The person selected to fill the vice-chair position shall have at least two years remaining in their term of appointment to the Board.

4.5 The person selected to fill the vice-chair position shall be a Minister's appointee if the Chair is a First Nations appointee and a First Nations appointee if the Chair is a Minister's appointee.

5 BANKING

5.1 The Board shall maintain a current bank account managed by the Executive Secretary.

5.1 Cheques drawn on the account shall require the signature of the Executive Secretary and one member's signature.

5..2 The co-signers on the account shall be the Chair, all Whitehorse area members and any other members wishing to register record their signatures with the account.

6 SPOKESPERSON

6.1 The Chair of the Board shall act as its spokesperson except in his absence when the Vice-Chair will act in his or her place.

7 MINUTES

7.1 Minutes shall be kept of all Board meetings to provide a summary record of proceedings and decisions.

7.2 An extract "Summary of Decisions" listing all the decisions: action items; motions passed ; and recommendations made will be prepared based on the minutes of each meeting.

7.3 A "members" checklist, an indexed appendix to the minutes, will be prepared following each meeting which lists action items under the names of those who are committed to doing the work.

7.4 Draft minutes, summary extracts of decisions and the "members" checklist will be distributed to members as soon as possible after each meeting.

7.5 Members will have 14 days from the date of mailing to identify any problems with the minutes and propose any substantial changes to the Secretariat.

7.6 Following the 14 day period, the Secretariat will distribute corrected copies of the summary of decisions to the Minister, First Nations, Renewable Resource Councils, the Council for Yukon Indians and other interested parties.

7.7 Distributed copies of summary decisions will include a note indicating that full sets of minutes will be made available on request.

7.8 In the event that a summary of decisions includes recommendations forwarded to the Minister, those recommendations will be removed from the distribution copy of the summary of decisions and their absence and the reason why they cannot be included (U.F.A. Section 16.8.3 which prescribes confidentiality for some recommendations made to the Minister) will be noted in the distribution copy.

7.9 Distribution copies of minutes will also omit the recommendations made to the Minister to ensure that the Board complies with Section 16.8.3 of the Umbrella Final Agreement.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Responses will be drafted to all substantive correspondence with the Board for the consideration of the Chair.

8.2 The Secretariat will maintain a list of correspondence received and sent by the Board for periodic distribution to members.

8.3 The Secretariat will maintain a chronological reading file which will be available for member review at meetings and during office hours.

9 BOARD COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS

9.1 To facilitate Board communications with members and for the purpose of receiving and sending board information facsimile machines and answering machines will be made available on loan to members who need them for the duration of their appointment.

9.2 To assist members in maintaining organized files of Board related materials, two drawer filing cabinets will be made available to members on loan for the duration of their appointment.

10 ISSUES BROUGHT TO THE BOARD

10.1 The Board will respond in writing to any one bringing issues to its attention.

10.2 It will propose a course of action which:

a) advises contact with the appropriate Renewable Resource Council, if one has been established; and

b) emphasizes the need to collect information and demonstrate substantial local consensus on the concern before it can be forwarded to the Department of Renewable Resources for technical advice and then formally addressed by the Board.

11 SUPPORT SERVICES

In engaging support services required by the Board the following policy shall apply:

Service contracts of more than $5000

11.1 For services for which the value of the particular service is greater than $5000 the Board will call for public tenders or establish open public competition.

Service contracts of less than $5000

11.2 Contracts for services less than $5000 will require the approval of the Chair and reports on the issuance of any such contract will be made to the next subsequent meeting of theBoard.

12 HONORARIA

Meeting Honoraria:

12.1 Members shall receive an honorarium of $200 for each day of Board meetings. Travel Honoraria

12.2 Members shall receive an honorarium of $100 for each day of travel required to or frommeetings. For travel times less than four hours, members will receive a half day honorarium.

Preparation Honoraria:

12.3 Members shall receive a preparation honorarium of $100 for each full day of meetings in addition to the meeting and travel honoraria.

Training Honoraria:

12.4 a) Members taking part in training opportunities approved for the entire Board will be eligible for payment of training fees, honoraria, perdiem expenses and accommodation costs.

12.4. b) Members taking part in individual training opportunities approved by the Training Committee will not be eligible for honoraria, but may be eligible for payment of training fees, per diem and travel expenses subject to the approval of the Training Committee. Committee Work Honoraria

12.5 a) Members shall receive honoraria on a pro-rated basis for the actual time committed to Committee work. Reports of time committed to such work shall be submitted to the secretarial.

Report form and approval:

12.5 b) Members active on subcommittees or working groups should maintain a journal on forms provided by the secretariat to document their time commitments. Extracts from the journal shall be submitted by he member to the Secretariat on a monthly basis. Payment will be made when these have been initialled as approved by the committee chair and Board Chair.

Chair Honoraria:

12.6 The Chair shall receive an honorarium of $300 for each day of meetings.

Chair Preparation Honoraria:

12.7 The Chair shall receive the equivalent of two days of honoraria as preparation and post-meeting briefings for each scheduled meeting of the Board.

Chair Consultation and Supervisory Honoraria:

12.8 The Chair shall receive honoraria on a pro-rated basis for time committed to Board consultation duties and administrative supervision. Reports of time committed to such work shall be submitted to the Secretariat.

Authorization of Payment of Chair Honoraria:

12.9 Chair shall submit a monthly statement of time devoted to Board business to the Secretariat.

Payment will be made when it has been initialled as approved by the Vice-Chair.

13 FINANCIAL REPORTS

13.1 Financial Reports shall be provided to the Board on a quarterly basis.

13.2 Financial records shall be available for inspection by members at any time.

14 SCREENING SYSTEM

Scope:

14.1 Screening is intended to review any matter referred to the Board from whatever source to determine:

a) if it is of a substantive nature,

b) if it is within the jurisdiction of the Board;

c) if it is a matter on which the Board might wish to comment or make recommendations;

d) if there is sufficient information to allow it to be dealt with; and

e) if the information is inadequate, what information and consultation gaps which should be filled before the matter could be considered by Board.

Pre-screening:

14.2 The Secretariat of the Board shall be responsible for receiving all submissions and for:

a) recording and assigning a record numbers to each matter referred to the Board;

b) drafting acknowledgement letters to parties who have referred a matter to the Board;

c) completing a one page pre-screening report on each matter referred to the Board addressing each of the following points:

I. What is the matter at issue?

II. Why is it a concern?

III. Where is the matter an issue?

iv. Who has jurisdiction for or interests in the matter?

d) forwarding to members a list of matters referred to the Board together with a set of one page summaries addressing the above questions with enough advance time to allow members to fax written comments prior to a scheduled screening meeting;

e) scheduling matters for Screening Committee review once sufficient information is available to complete pre-screening reports; and

f) scheduling meetings when urgency requires that matters be dealt with or when there are enough matters to be considered to justify the expenses of a meeting.

Screening Committee Membership:

14.3 The Screening Committee shall consist of:

a) the Chair;

b) two members of the Board chosen in rotation from the membership of the Board; and

c) other such members as may be interested and available to attend the Screening Committee Meeting.

Advice:

14.4 The Screening Committee may obtain advice on matters before it from whatever sources it determines appropriate, including, but not limited to:

- Department of Renewable Resources
- Renewable Resources Councils
- First Nations
- Elders
- Interest Groups
- Proponents

Questions to be addressed by the Committee:

14.5 The Screening Committee shall review the pre-screening report, solicit information from its advisors on a matter and then consider the following questions:

Jurisdiction:

a) The Screening Committee shall first determine if the Board has the jurisdiction to deal with or to comment on a matter, and if not, should recommend referral to the appropriate agency.

In doing this, it should evaluate the matter against the objectives established for Chapter 16 and ask and answer the question, "Is this any of our business?"

Adequate Information and Analysis:

b) When the Committee has found that the Board has the jurisdiction to consider a

matter, it should then determine:

i. If there is enough information and analysis of the matter available to permit the Board to consider and make a decision on the matter; and

ii. If not, should identify the key information and consultation gaps and recommend to the Board that these be filled before the matter is scheduled for Board consideration.

Screening Committee Report to the Board:

14.6 The Screening Committee shall report to the Board on all matters which it has considered in a form which should include:

a) A summary of the issue incorporating the material from the pre-screening report as well as additional information solicited through the screening exercise;

b) The Committee's recommendation on whether or not the matter should be dealt with by the Board;

c) A list of any information or consultation needs identified by the Committee; and

d) Any other recommendations which the committee may wish to make to the Board on the handling of the matter. Report recommendations not binding

14.7 Recommendations made to the Board by the Screening Committee are not binding on the Board.

15. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF SCREENING COMMITTEE REPORTS

15.1 A portion of each meeting of the Board shall be set aside for the review and discussion of Screening Committee Reports.

Can the Board Deal with a Matter?

15.2 In considering the screening report on any matter, the Board shall first confirm whether or not it has jurisdiction to deal with or comment on the matter.

If not, it should:

a) specify why not so that a response can be provided to the party raising the matter; and

b) identify authorities which may have jurisdiction to deal with the matter and where appropriate refer the matter to them.

Should the Board Deal with a matter?

15.3 a) When the Board confirms that it has the jurisdiction to deal with a matter, it should then determine, with reference to Board priorities and workplans, whether it is advisable for the Board to deal with the matter.

b) If not, it should specify why not so that a response can be provided to the party raising the matter.

If the Board decides to deal with a matter:

15.4. In the event that the Board determines that a matter should be dealt with, it shall:

a) review and if necessary add to the Screening Committee list of identified information or consultation gaps;

b) determine how and by whom these should be filled; and

c) schedule a time for the matter's consideration by the Board.

16 BOARD COMMITTEES

16.1 Board committees shall be established only by a motion of the Board;

16.2 The task of a committee shall be very carefully defined by the Board and recorded in the minutes as part of the same motion;

16.3 The committee shall not add to its mandate except by reference to the Board and through a formal amendment of the tasking motion;

16.4 The Chair of a committee shall be appointed by a motion of the Board; and

16..5 The Chair of a committee shall not have any director or perceived conflict of interest in the subject of the Committee's work.

17 ISSUE WORKING TEAMS

17.1 Issue Working Teams may be established by the Board to gather additional information or conduct consultation that may be required before the Board can deal with a matter.

Team Composition:

17.2 Teams may be made up of one or more Board members and such technical staff as may be necessary to gather and analyze information necessary for the consideration of thematter.

First Meeting of Issue Working Teams:

17.3 The first meeting of an Issue Working Team shall be scheduled as soon as possible following its establishment and shall involve the Board Member(s) and technical staff of the Working Team as well as the Board Executive Secretary and Departmental Board Liaison person:

a) to ensure that the mandate of the working group is clear; and

b) to help coordinate Departmental technical support.

Mandate Review and Workplan

17.4 The Team shall review its mandate and develop a working plan designed to allow it to forward its findings on the schedule determined by the Board.

17.5 Board members of working teams shall be eligible for honoraria and expenses on the same basis as for committee work.

18 WORKING TEAM REPORTS

18.1 Reports shall be prepared oy a recorder who has the confidence of the Working Team. If necessary, an individual may be contracted by the team to write the report.

Sources of Information:

18.2 Working Team Reports shall summarize all relevant information and first order consultation advice collected from:

a) resource users, elders and people on the land;

b) scientists and managers (including experts from outside of Government where needed);

c) Renewable Resources Councils and First Nations; and

d) interest or advocacy groups.

Types of Information

18.3 The report shall attempt to collect the following types of information about the matter to be considered by the Board:

a) "traditional knowledge" or land based observations of trappers, hunters, elders and others familiar with the area where the matter has arisen;

b) information from scientific studies, surveys, harvest data; and

c) information on current regulations, management and enforcement practices.

Perspectives

18.4 The report shall attempt to present the perspectives of the range of people or groups with an interest in the matter to be considered by the Board, including:

a) the views of proponents or those who have brought the matter to the attention of the Board;

b) the corporate perspective of the Fish and Wildlife Branch and Department of Renewable Resources;

c) the views of affected Renewable Resources Councils and First Nations Governments;

d) the views of resource user or groups representing them; and

e) the views of individual biologists or managers with expertise in the matter under study who may have perspectives which differ from the corporate Government perspective.

Cultural Differences

18.5 Where significant cultural differences exist on the matter under consideration, these differences should be identified and highlighted in the report.

Recommendations and Option Identification

18.6 The Working Team Report may recommend options to deal with matters studied and set targets for goals for their implementation where applicable.

Anticipated Effects:

18.7 In recommending an option the Working team should address its:

a) anticipated effects on conservation

b) anticipated effects on habitat

c) anticipated effects on users

d) conformity with Final Agreements

e) conformity with legislation

f) enforceability

Monitoring

18.8 The Working Team may recommend monitoring measures to determine the progress towards the goals established for the recommended option.

Recommendations not Binding:

18.9 The recommendations of the Working Team Report are not binding on the Board.

19 NO SMOKING OFFICE

The Office Premises of the Board and any meeting rooms used by the Board shall be maintained as "no smoking" areas.

20 REPORTS TO THE BOARD ON TRAINING, CONFERENCES OR WORKSHOPS

Members shall submit brief written reports to the Board on major training opportunities, conferences or workshops attended which have not involved the entire Board and have required a major financial outlay on the part of the Board.

In the event that a number of members have participated, the group attending shall designate a reporter on behalf of the group.

21 USE OF LAWYERS

21.1 As a general principle, legal opinions will not be sought by the Board on internal matters or recommendations.

21.2 The decision to engage a lawyer can only be made by the Board as a whole.

21.3 Choice of a lawyer will be made only on the basis of personal merits and expertise regardless of political affiliation or other factors.

21.4 A lawyer shall only be engaged by a letter signed by the Chair on the authority of a Board motion and can only charge for time committed after the date of the letter.

21.5 Terms of Reference for the Lawyer must be approved by the Board.

21.6 A budget for each legal assignment must be approved by the Board and may not be exceeded without Board approval.

21.7 When legal opinions are sought by individual members without the authorization of the Board they cannot be brought back to the Board for payment.